

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 293274
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 293274

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT SECTO 12014 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON
PARIS BONN DEC 8

QUOTE: S E C R E T SECTO 12014

NODIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: FOUR POWER CONSULTATIONS ON SALT

1. DEC 7 QUADRIpartite MINISTERIAL MEETING REVIEWED STATUS
AND PROSPECTS FOR SALT, AND DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF
FURTHER FOUR POWER CONSULTATIONS ON SALT AND GREY AREA
SYSTEMS. DAVID OWEN VIGOROUSLY SUPPORTED THE GERMAN
PROPOSAL FOR EARLY FOUR POWER TALKS, EVEN SUGGESTING THAT
THEY BE HELD TRIPARTITELY IF THE FRENCH COULD NOT AGREE
TO PARTICIPATE. DEGUIRINGAUD SAID THAT THE FRENCH
GOVERNMENT POSITION WOULD BE DECIDED AT A DECEMBER 22ND
INTERAGENCY MEETING. HE ASKED THAT WE AWAIT THIS

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DECISION, SAYING THAT IF IT WERE POSITIVE THE FRENCH WOULD
BE READY TO SEE THE TALKS BEGIN IN EARLY JANUARY. OWEN
AND SECRETARY VANCE AGREED TO WAIT. VAN WELL, REPRESENT-
ING GENSCHER, WHO WAS OUT ILL, SAID HE WOULD REPORT THE
PROPOSAL BACK TO BONN.

2. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT IF THE TALKS DID GO FORWARD,

HE INTENDED TO HAVE DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER HEAD A VERY SMALL U.S. TEAM. DEGUIRINGAUD DID NOT REACT TO THE PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THESE TALKS BUT THE FRENCH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY RETURN TO THIS POINT SHOULD THEY AGREE TO PARTICIPATE.

3. THE EUROPEANS REVIEWED THE SUBSTANCE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CONCERNS WITH SALT II AND THE SCOPE AND STRUCTURE FOR SALT III ALONG ANTICIPATED LINES. OWEN SAID HE WOULD NOT STAND IN THE WAY OF A U.S. DECISION TO RETAIN THE STRICTLY BILATERAL NATURE OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS BUT WANTED OTHER OPTIONS EXAMINED. VAN WELL SAID, IN EFFECT, THAT IF SALT WERE TO BE EXTENDED TO COVER OTHER THAN INTERCONTINENTAL SYSTEMS, REDUCTIONS IN WESTERN MEDIUM RANGE SYSTEMS SHOULD BE BARGAINED AGAINST REDUCTIONS IN SIMILAR RANGED SOVIET SYSTEMS. HE DID NOT ARGUE FOR EUROPEAN INVOLVEMENT IN SUCH NEGOTIATIONS, BUT RATHER FOR INTENSIFIED CONSULTATIONS WHEN SUCH SYSTEMS WERE INVOLVED. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THE U.S. WELCOMED THE CONSULTATIONS: PROPOSED BY THE GERMANS, AND WAS READY TO PROCEED AT THE TIME AND PLACE WHICH SUITED THE EUROPEANS. HE ASSURED HIS COLLEAGUES FORCEFULLY THAT SALT II WOULD IMPROVE EUROPEAN AS WELL AS U.S. SECURITY, THAT THE TIME LIMITS ON CRUISE MISSILES DEPLOYMENT IN THE PROTOCOL SHOULD BE INTERPRETED LITERALLY, AND THAT WE WOULD BE SENSITIVE TO THEIR CONCERNS ON NON-CIRCUMVENTION, NON-TRANSFER PROVISIONS.

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VANCE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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